

P O E M  
On the most Ancient, Hoourable, and Necessary  
T H E  
HAMMER MEN -- TRADE

**T**HIS TRADE all other Trades doth far Outvie;  
For it surpasseth in Antiquity,  
All we can name, The *Sacred Page* is clear  
That *Iubal Cain* was an Artificer,  
In Brals, and Iton, and that his Skill was such  
That way, that Others he the same did Teach;  
And it Tradition we may but believe,  
Which Authors to the several Trades doth give,  
And them for their Invention highly Praise,  
And in due Order doth them Canonize,  
We find that the first Author of this Trade

Doth *Vulcan* aptly sound, whose Trade it was  
To be a SMITH to *Jupiter*, and Hee  
Was the first worship'd for a *Deitie*,  
'Mongst all the Authors of the Trades, which show's  
That as he was Anterior to those  
In time, likewise his Trade in Dignitie  
Was so in Judgement of Antiquitie,  
And justlie: for no Trade's more necessar,  
Whether it be in Time of Peace or War;  
The *Scripture* doth Remark when *Israel*  
Was most distressed in the Reign of *Saul*,  
That there was no SMITH found throughout the Land,  
That neither Sword nor Spear was in the Hand  
Of any of the People, to maintain  
Their Liberty against the *Philistine*.  
No wonder then that they were in a strait  
For want of SMITHS: they wanted Armes to Fight;  
And if we view the Numerous Arts that are  
For Ornament, or Highly necessar.  
We find that Tools for These cannot be had,  
Without th' Assistance of this Noble Trade.  
The *Gardiner* can ne're use for his Life,  
His Trade without a Spade, and Prunning Knife  
The *Husband Man* to whom so much we Owe,  
Needeth a Coulter and Share to his Plow.

The *Taylor* needs a Knife, a Goose, and Sheers,  
The *Mason* Irons and a Mattock bears  
The *Wright* his Cousin, needs an Ax and Saw,  
The *Flesher* needs a Knife, to cut the Maw,  
The *Weaver* needs for Stenring Temple Heads,  
For cutting Thumbs, and Ends, a Knife he needs,  
Baxters the Scraper and the Rake, *Furriers*,  
*Wahers*, and *Glovers* cannot want their meet,  
A *Wandle*, and Round Scraper have

The *Gardener* with a Knife Pares away  
The *Leather*. And the *Lifter* cannot Dress  
The *Cloth*, without a Cauldron and a Press.  
His Brother needeth *VVires* (its understood)  
To make the Ancient Covering for the Head.  
Thus every One of all the Trades I mind,  
Beholding to the *Hammer-Men* I find,  
It addeth to the Honour of this Trade,  
That the most Precious Things that Nature made,  
It hath for Objects, Silver, Gemms, and Gold,  
Than which what weighs more, and less bulk doth hold?  
What's of more General Use? with them we buy  
The Things that are of greatest Dignity,  
And Usefulness, for Meat and Drink, and All  
That necessar for *Humane kind* we call.  
We buy for Gold and Silver, which is more,  
Some sell Themselves for These, and them Adore;  
I like the Object of the Art so well,  
That I account them Happy who it Feel,  
And Handle oft, and have the Liberty  
It to Engrave upon, or Liquify:  
In Fine, it addeth to the Trades Renown,  
They wear for Ensigns Hammer and the CROVVN,

F I N I S.

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